FBI monitors state's Paisley death probe

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WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI is monitoring an tinvestigation by Maryland state police into the death of former CIA official John Paisley, who was found shot to death in the Chesapeake Bay, a Justice Department official says.

A department official, who asked not to be identified by name, said the Justice Department has asked the FBI "to keep an eye on it (the investigation) very closely."

Justice Department officials said there is a possibility the federal government could have jurisdiction in the case on grounds that a crime may have been committed on the high seas.

However, police in Maryland have tentatively called Paisley's death a suicide and the state police plan to issue a report in the case later this week.

Paisley died from a single bullet wound in the head. His body, strapped with diving weights, was discovered in the bay on Oct. 1. State police say they believe Paisley killed himself while boating on Sept. 24. They believe he was beset by financial, marital and health problems.

The Paisley case was discussed by the Justice Department official in a meeting with reporters on Tuesday in which the remarks were embargoed for use on Wednesday.